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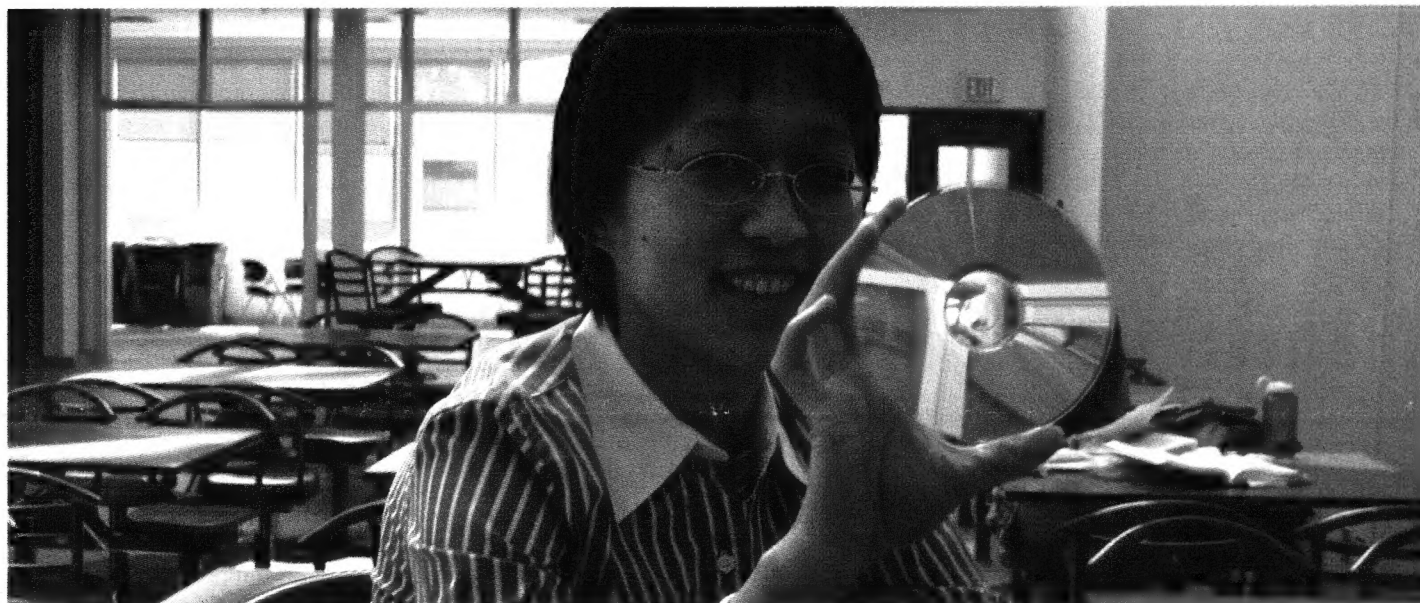
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

Volume 44 Issue 20

JUNE 8, 2007

<http://www.ualberta.ca/folio>



Electrical and computer engineering professor Vicky Zhao's research looks at ways to protect multimedia content.

Funding will help track pirates

Digital fingerprinting can help protect copyright

By Richard Cairney

When Hollywood execs were investigating who was posting pirated copies of Oscar-nominated movies on the Internet in 2004, an early design of digital 'fingerprinting' helped track down the culprit – a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences who had shared the movies with a friend.

An electronic 'fingerprint' had been embedded in legal versions of the movies, and studios knew who had which copies of the films.

The so-called 'traitor tracing' coding was later refined by a group of researchers including Vicky Zhao, a professor in the U of A Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who was at the time conducting graduate studies at the University of Maryland.

"Few people worked on this problem after 2004, and we were the first who did a thorough analysis of digital fingerprint-

ing technology, improved the performance, and proposed systematic design methodologies," Zhao said.

Last week Zhao was one of 174 U of A professors to earn a total of \$8.2 million in research funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Zhao will use her funding to develop new traitor tracing techniques to help identify the source copies of illegal multimedia data – from movies to industrial secrets.

"This project applies to anything that involves copyright," said Zhao.

"It could be music, or movies, or e-books – software, anything."

Zhao, who has been awarded \$20,000 per year for the next five years, will use the funding to help further refine the technology and to study the relationship between content owners and those who would try to hack their way into multimedia materials and erase the electronic fingerprints. So,

Zhao's research will examine traitor tracing as well as behaviour forensics.

"We have on one side content owners and on the other side people who will work collectively to mount an attack to remove the identifying fingerprints – they have conflicting objectives. This dynamic affects how content providers embed the fingerprints, and how the content providers embed the fingerprints affects the way people attack the system," she said.

"We want to look at the way users sort of play with each other and affect each other's decisions."

Zhao is a natural for the funding – she has literally written the book on this subject, as one of five authors of the text *Multimedia Fingerprinting Forensics for Traitor Tracing*, published by Hindawi Publishing.

The funding was part of a national package of \$458.8 million in support for Canadian researchers. ■

Second Augustana building project green-lighted

Augustana Forum provides public space

By Richard Cairney

Just weeks after a ground-breaking ceremony for a new, \$13.2-million library, Augustana Campus has been awarded \$16.8 million in funding for an adjacent building.

Known as the Augustana Forum, the building will provide students, faculty and staff at the campus based in Camrose, Alta., with a new gathering space and will dramatically change the look of the campus' quad.

Augustana Dean Roger Epp says the Forum will be similar in many ways to the main floor of the Students' Union Building on the U of A main campus.

"It is a place where there will be chance meetings of professors and students, where students can have a coffee and argue," said Epp. "I am convinced that this kind of space is at least as important to a learning environment as a classroom. So it is great to have the government recognize the importance of our out-of-class space to everything that happens at a university."

"Every now and then, people get trapped by space utilization formulas and bums in seats for what percentage of time – and that has its purpose. But the out-of-class space is crucial and we haven't had enough of it."

Funding for the project was announced during Augustana's May 27 convocation ceremony, by Wetaskiwin-Camrose MLA LeRoy Johnson.

Epp said the completion date for the library, currently under construction, is August 2008 at the earliest. The Forum, Epp added, will be built afterwards. ■



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Can stem cells be ‘trained’ to produce insulin?

Research brings the possibility one step closer

By Caitlin Crawshaw

University of Alberta researchers are the first in the world to transform embryonic stem cells into insulin-producing cells, an achievement that could one day lead to an endless source of islet cells for Type 1 diabetics.

In collaboration with Geron, a California-based biopharmaceutical company, Dr. Gregory Korbitt successfully differentiated human embryonic stem cells – immature cells that haven’t yet become a particular kind of cell – into insulin-producers resembling the islet cells in the pancreas. These cells produce the insulin needed for the body to digest sugar, but aren’t functional in Type 1 diabetics, who must take synthetic insulin to manage blood sugar levels.

“The question is, ‘How do you teach those embryonic stem cells to become an insulin-producing cell, and not a heart cell or a nerve cell?’”

– Dr. Gregory Korbitt

This new discovery could lead to an unlimited source of insulin-producing cells, which could be implanted in diabetic patients. Korbitt was a member of the team that pioneered the world-renowned, U of A-developed Edmonton Protocol method, eliminating insulin dependency for years at a time.

Korbitt, the study’s lead author, said this new research is promising, but added it is still preliminary.

“When people hear ‘stem cells’ they sometimes think a cure is around the corner,” said Korbitt.

This isn’t the case, he cautioned, as less than five per cent of the stem cells in the study were successfully ‘taught’ to act like islet cells. “The number of cells we have is not therapeutically applicable,” he said.

“The other problem is that these cells are still quite immature. They may have insulin in them, but they’re not working or functioning like a normal adult insulin-secreting cell, so we have to make that better.”

While the new findings are exciting, clinical development will require more tests.



New research by Dr. Gregory Korbitt differentiated human embryonic stem cells into insulin-producers resembling the islet cells in the pancreas.

“It’s a step – we have to make small steps to get to that point.”

The next step is to implant the insulin-producing stem cells into diabetic mice, to see if their need for insulin is eliminated.

Stem cell research is “still in its infancy,” and presents many challenges, said Korbitt. Finding the best ways to change a stem cell into a particular kind of cell is extremely difficult. “In reality, it’s not as easy as we think it should be,” he said.

“The question is, ‘How do you teach those embryonic stem cells to become an insulin-producing cell, and not a heart cell or a nerve cell?’ So, you have to derive strategies that sort of mimic development, but the problem is, as with most developmental biology, we don’t know all of the mechanisms that induce a cell to differentiate into a certain pathway.”

The study will be published in the August issue of *Stem Cells*. ■

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folio

Volume 44 Issue 20

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
(EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS,
6TH FLOOR GENERAL SERVICES BUILDING
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA,
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Folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate.
Folio is published 20 times per year.

The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in *Folio* do not necessarily reflect university policy. *Folio* contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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Deadline: Thursday 3 p.m. one week prior to publication
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Deadline: Thursday 12 p.m. one week prior to publication
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ISSN 0015-5764 Copyright 2007

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The next big thing in molecular separation

Grad student's design side-steps challenges

By Richard Cairney

A new sieve designed by a University of Alberta graduate student could be the next big thing in separating molecules using really, really small devices.

Yong Zeng, who is working towards his PhD in chemistry, and his supervisor, Department of Chemistry Chair Dr. Jed Harrison, have published research results that demonstrate a new nano-scale sieve design that is easier and cheaper to produce, and more efficient than sieves produced by other high-tech nanotechnologies. Their findings appear in the journal *Analytical Chemistry*.

The sieve has potential applications in biomedical research. It will, for example, allow researchers to separate viruses from fluid or tissue samples.

The sieve Zeng and Harrison designed uses silica sand, along with the same kind of silicone you’d use to line a bathtub, to act as a filter. The devices are produced quickly, can be used hundreds of times because they have many channels, and cost no more than \$10 to manufacture.

In Zeng and Harrison’s design, samples flow around uniformly packed silica pellets,

the way water would flow around grapes packed into a box.

Researchers can customize the sieves to larger or smaller scales, to allow larger or smaller objects to pass through. For example, marbles would filter through a box of basketballs, but tennis balls wouldn’t. By adjusting the size of the silica beads in the sieve, Zeng and Harrison are able to filter out objects as small as a virus.

“What Yong has developed is a way to make ordered lattice structures that are crystalline packings of 100 - 1,000 nanometers in diameter, and the space between the beads becomes ordered,” said Harrison, adding that the design allows researchers to use larger fluid or tissue samples, yielding larger result samples to study - a definite improvement over other sieve designs.

Another recently designed sieve nano-fabricated on silicon/glass chips has made a big scientific impact, but is far from practical because it is costly to produce (over \$1,000 each), and can only be used about 10 times before samples clog its channels.

“So from our point of view this takes the advances discovered in the silicon/glass

devices and makes them commercially viable,” said Harrison.

Zeng, who completed his undergraduate studies at China’s Wuhan University, began working on the new design when he’d grown frustrated by the work Harrison had originally assigned him - to work on sieves made in silicon using nanolithography.

“The goals are the same, the method’s different,” said Harrison of the outcome. “Yong just concluded that the conventional method was too hard and too expensive.”

“I was a little nervous about it,” Zeng said of presenting his idea to Harrison. “And I wanted to publish a paper on this right away, but thankfully Jed said that we should refine it and improve it first. And I’m glad we did - I’m not sure it would have had the same impact.”

Manufactured on glass and plastic slides or “chips”, the sieves measure a few square millimeters.

Harrison said the chips also have potential application in the field of photonics. The sieves could be used to manipulate beams of light shone through them as well. ■

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Governing with ethics

A new campus course offers students – including our own board chair – tools for ethical governance

By Ileiren Byles

When it comes to taking the lead, the chair of the University of Alberta board of governors likes to keep an old Yogi Berra quote in mind – “If you don’t know where you’re going, you’ll wind up somewhere else.”

“If you ask someone at the U of A right now where are we headed, I think the chances are good that they’ll know,” said Brian Heidecker, who spent two years serving as vice-chair of the board, and six years as a Senate member before taking the reins in 2006. “With Dare to Discover and Dare to Deliver and the vision of top 20 by 2020, we have a very carefully enunciated vision – this is where we think we need to be.”

“You go into all aspects of corporate governance, which is as applicable to the university as it is to the private sector. It’s comforting that the first thing you realize is how much you really know already, and then you pick up a lot of fine pointers.”

– Brian Heidecker

Heidecker and some of the top leaders in business, industry, politics and the non-profit world sat down together in a new course offered at the School of Business, together with the ICD Corporate Governance College and the University of Toronto’s Joseph L. Rotman School of Management. The 12-day program is designed to meet the increasing need for highly trained and qualified corporate directors.

“The beauty of it is, you have 25 people sitting there and you learn as much from each other as you do from the instructor,” said Heidecker. “You go into all aspects of corporate governance, which is as applicable to the university as it is to the private sector. It’s comforting that the first thing you realize is how much you really know already, and then you pick up a lot of fine pointers.”

Directors today must stay current in a range of specialized areas, including law, finance, securities, accounting and risk. The Directors Education Program provides the knowledge and skills needed to ensure board members can confidently monitor and advise management.

The course also reinforces the oversight role in terms of audits, said Heidecker.

“It’s great to know that we’re about as close to the industry standards as we can get. We get very good audits and that means that all of our systems are up to spec,” he said. “But it was also about planning for things coming down the road – enterprise risk assessment and risk management – from a meteorite hitting campus to the norovirus outbreak we’ve already dealt with on campus. How do you manage these things – financial, system risk, human risk? We had some great conversations about how to work our way around those issues.”

Courses such as the Directors Education Program are necessary in a world where it’s become all too clear how things can go wrong from the top down, says the new director of the U of A Institute for United States Policy Studies. Anne McLellan, former deputy prime minister also took part in the program with Heidecker. She took the course because she’s member of three publicly traded boards, and on the Royal Alexandra Hospital Charitable Foundation.

“It’s a very good course for anyone who



Public- and private-sector directors navigate their organizations toward their goals. On the way, they need to steer clear of ethical conflicts. A new UofA course helps them do just that.

sits on a board of directors, profit, non-profit or voluntary,” she said. “The world of corporate governance has change dramatically over the past decade or so. That’s been driven by the Enrons, the WorldComs and so on. One now has a whole new set of rules and expectations as the culture of the corporate board has changed.”

The world of corporate ethics has certainly come under the microscope in the wake

of prominent financial disasters in the U.S. U of A alumnus and author Richard Haskayne visited campus last month to launch his book, *Northern Tigers: Building Ethical Canadian Corporate Champions*. A business leader who was awarded the Order of Canada for “his high ethical business standards,” Haskayne speaks passionately about corporate ethics in business and the need to “create companies that are true domestic tigers – enterprises

“This institution gets a lot of money from donations, from the government, from the taxpayers of Alberta. And people expect that those dollars are accounted for, that there are accounts that can be reviewed by the public, and that you are providing an oversight function in relation to senior management.”

– Anne McLellan

firmly based in Canada and strong and quick-witted enough to withstand predatory takeovers by foreign corporations.”

“We have entered a time of extreme cynicism that naturally results from a great many widely publicized corporate scandals. Some people are so critical that they suggest the term ‘corporate ethics’ has become an oxymoron,” he writes in *Northern Tigers*. “In a ruthless global economy, Canadians increasingly need to develop our companies into powerful, influential northern tigers that make all the major decisions at home, not in some far-off foreign head office.”

While the rules and compliance issues for a publicly traded company in stock exchange go beyond the expectations one would attach to a board of governors of a university, for example, they still apply, McLellan said. “This institution gets a lot of money from donations, from the government, from the taxpayers of Alberta. And people expect that those dollars are accounted for, that there are accounts that can be reviewed by the public, and that you are providing an oversight function in relation to senior management.”

“There is an important strategic and oversight function that the board plays, with a whole new set from the securities commission, U.S. Congress, national organizations of chartered accountants. Everybody’s raising the bar – as they should,” said McLellan.

But one of the biggest lessons that many board members need to learn is heavily emphasized throughout the course, which is perhaps best represented by another quote – “Leave the driving to us.”

“Board members need to understand this,” said Heidecker. “We can be very helpful in massaging and tweaking the plan and guiding its development but we have to stay out of the day-to-day stuff. You don’t see us shovelling sidewalks, and we shouldn’t be doing the books either.”

McLellan agrees. “The course talks about the difference between what the board of directors does and what management does,” she said. “Directors can get into trouble if they decide they should be running the company.”

Staying out of the details means directors and board members can keep their eyes on the road and let the drivers know where they’re going, said Heidecker.

“If you have a well-written and well-communicated plan, people buy into it, understand it and want to be part of it,” he said. “In the absence of that, institutions of all kinds just sort of drift – you stay average, at best. We don’t think that it’s appropriate for us to be average – we think that’s phenomenally lacking in ambition.” ■

Top teachers honoured

Anatomy course earns high marks in team teaching

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta recently honoured some of its most talented teachers - those who go the extra step in helping students advance through their academic careers.

A total of 11 full-time professors and sessional instructors were recognized for individual and team-teaching achievements at the Timms Centre May 28.

This year's team teaching award is being presented to a trio of professors who provide undergraduate students with a solid foundation in anatomy by going beyond rote memorization and into a thorough understanding of how the human body works.

"The old view of anatomy is that what you do is try to memorize long lists of anatomical terms," said course director Dr. Pierre Lemelin. "What we do is provide an advanced undergraduate course with a very limited number of seats - we don't allow more than 20 students to take the class each year - and we offer them an anatomy course with different perspectives. We use a developmental, clinical, functional and evolutionary approach to understand more about the human body - how it is shaped, formed and how it works."

The Anatomy 403 course, taught by Lemelin along with Drs. Daniel Livy and Anna Farias, is a rare offering.

"For undergraduates to be able to perform their own dissection work is almost unheard of. I don't think there is a similar course in any Canadian institution at the undergraduate level - I would think we are among the very few that do offer this," said Lemelin.

The course is not as in-depth as medical-school courses, but does go a step beyond many of those classes. "In some medical schools now, in too many of them, they don't even perform dissection anymore. They rely too much on computers."

One comment from a Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry colleague in the trio's nomination package stated: "This course sets the standard by which other courses in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry are measured."

Students who take the course end up in careers as diverse as physical anthropology, neuroscience and bioengineering, as well as medicine.

"When we started the course in 2003, it was quite clear we had to do a really good job because the material itself is so dense,"

"The team itself has one agenda: to teach the best that we can."

— Dr. Pierre Lemelin

Lemelin said. "It is not a course you can do half-way. The team itself has one agenda: to teach the best that we can. And so far, the response has been over our wildest dream in terms of student appreciation."

The awards are presented by the University Teaching Award Committee.

The Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, awarded for teaching excellence by full-time continuing academic staff, is being presented to: David Barnett, Department of Drama; Robert Driver, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Clive Nigel Hickson, Department of Elementary Education; Paul Lu, Department of Computing Science and Jeremy Sit, in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Lu is best known for teaching undergraduates an operating systems course which is closely related to his own research interest.

"It is the classic case of research and teaching feeding off each other," said Lu, who also revised a second-year course on programming methodology in C programming.

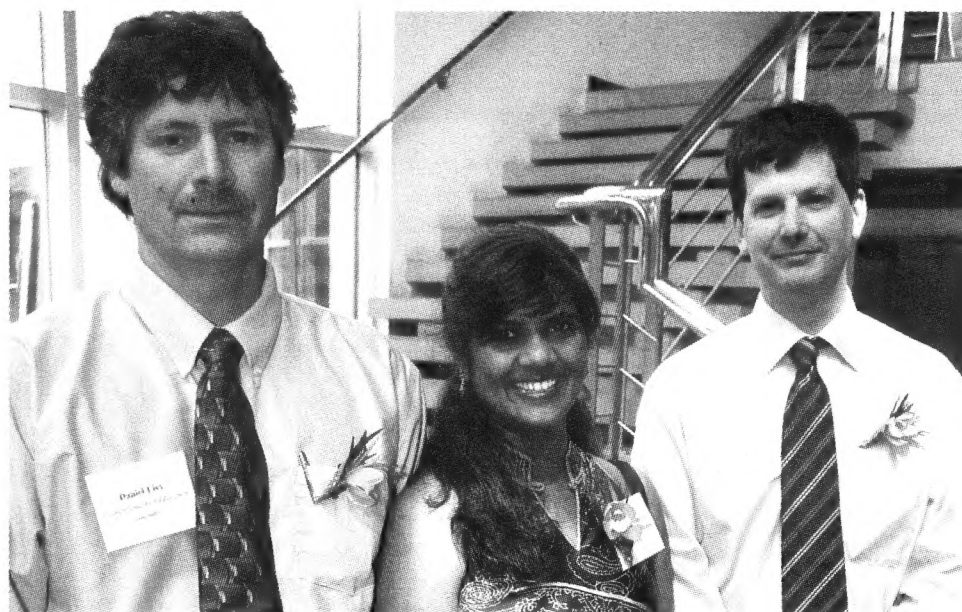
Lu says that, as a teacher, he tries to put himself in the shoes of his students - and it helps that he also earned his undergraduate degree at the U of A.

"I know how these courses fit together, so I can tell students that what they need to learn in one course, they will need to know for another course they're taking later on," said Lu.

Programming is often about building upon pre-existing work, Lu says, so his programming assignments build on one another, rather than requiring students to start from scratch with each project.

He also goes to great lengths to make sure that students understand the connections between lessons, so they are able to synthesize the information they've been taught and make connections between lessons and classes.

Lu, who says he knew at a young age that he wanted to teach, says the award



Drs. Pierre Lemelin, Anna Farias and Daniel Livy earned the team teaching award for their Anatomy 403 course.

is a significant honour, and that credit needs to be shared.

"I am thrilled. This is a very prestigious award and the competition is tough. I want to acknowledge the fact that these courses are not just taught by the instructor - I have the teaching assistants to thank, and we have the instructional support group which does a great job too. They all play a role in the development of the courses."

The William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching recognizes excellence in undergraduate teaching by academic staff and is being presented to: Pam Chamberlain, who teaches English at the Augustana Faculty in Camrose, Alta.; Kathryn Chandler, in the Department of Human Ecology; and Webb Dussome, in the Department of Marketing, Business Economics and Law.

For Chamberlain, the award carries meaning not only for its intrinsic recognition of her teaching accomplishments, but for the entire faculty.

"It's almost overwhelming," she said. "It is a big deal because it is Augustana's first university-wide teaching award, so I find it very humbling and I am excited that it gets our faculty's name out there. Augustana Campus emphasizes and prides itself on high-quality teaching, so it is a great honour

for me to be recognized in this particular area by this particular faculty."

"During my graduate program at the U of A, professors such as Betsy Sargent in English and Jill McClay in Education gave me a solid theoretical foundation for writing pedagogy that I try to put into practice in the classroom."

Chamberlain is an Augustana alumna who also earned an education degree at the U of A and taught in junior and senior high schools. After earning her master's degree at the U of A, she took on a sessional instructor's position at Augustana.

In teaching the mandatory English class, Chamberlain tries to relate literature to issues that are important in her students' lives. In more advanced classes, Chamberlain hopes her students will realize that they are writers.

"Students think that writers are other people who have written books, and the first key is getting them to understand that if you write, you are a writer. It is big psychological jump but it is the truth."

A 'Writer's Café' held at the end of each term, and a class anthology help drive the lessons home.

The awards were presented at a special ceremony at the Timms Centre for the Arts today. ■

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

The U of A has been voted as the province's most respected public sector institution in *Alberta Venture* magazine's annual reader survey of corporate reputation.

The survey asked magazine readers to rank nominees under the categories of performance, brand, culture of innovation, community involvement and human resources practices.

The magazine's June edition details the results. The U of A, the magazine says, "aced every test" due in large part to President Indira Samarasekera.

"Privately, many hard-core business types admit they find it hard to shake a vague distrust of the groves of academe," the magazine's cover story states.

But, it adds, Samarasekera "has the gumption and intellectual tickets to unlock every door that separates campus and corporation."

"As the antithesis of the stuffy, disengaged academic, the U of A's twelfth president combines an unpretentious personal style with an authoritative resolve."

The results are based on a survey of 3,000 of the magazine's subscribers conducted in March and April. Survey participants were asked to rank their first, second and third choices in each of 11 categories, either aided or unaided by a list of candidates. In the Public Sector category, the U of A placed ahead of second-place NAIT and the University of Calgary. ■

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ALBERTA VENTURE | 2007

Enterprise Square update

Moving day draws near

By Folio Staff

As summer descends upon us work continues on Enterprise Square. Crews are working around the clock to make sure the facility is ready for the September opening date. The project remains on time and within budget.

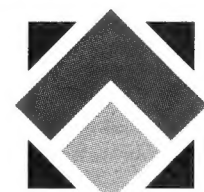
Currently there are more than 400 trades workers on the project site. The daily rate of cash expenditure is more than \$250,000 per working day, a significant local economic impact.

The university's Board of Governors recently approved a further sum of money for furnishings, security equipment and modifications to the LRT elevator system to improve universal access into Enterprise Square from the Bay LRT Station.

Next week, AICT will move a workforce on the site to commence set up of all the communications rooms within Enterprise Square.

At a recent Enterprise Square Brown Bagger, staff moving downtown were treated to a project update by project manager Barry Temple. Details from Temple's presentation were covered in the last Enterprise Square update in Folio, which can be found online at: <http://www.expressnews.ualberta.ca/expressnews/folio/index.cfm?fvol=44>.

The next Brown Bagger is being planned for late June, and the topic will be "Enterprise Square Operations Model." Presenters will include Hugh Warren, director of infrastructure, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, and representatives from the property management company that will be managing Enterprise Square. ■



Enterprise Square
University of Alberta

Riding the rails

Musical staffer selected as one of VIA Rail's Artists on Rails

By Caitlin Crawshaw

A U of A staffer is taking her show on the road.

This summer, children's entertainer Dawn Bissett will board a train and sing up storm for passengers. Bissett is one of a handful of artists to be chosen for Via Rail's Artists on Rails program, which provides local artists an opportunity to showcase their talent on a cross-Alberta 'muse-cruise.'

After working hours, the Institute for Public Economics administrative assistant teaches music and dance to preschoolers and is a member of The Time Flies, a musical trio that performs for children. All of this keeps Bissett busy – but it's energizing work.

"When I teach preschoolers, one of the best things for me is when I see their faces light up with 'I can do this'," she said. "When they get it, I know I'm making a positive difference and that feels fantastic."

"It's music into joy, into music, and back to me. And it goes round and round. It's very self-perpetuating, especially the young children, they're just unbridled in their receptivity."

Bissett, who has been dancing and

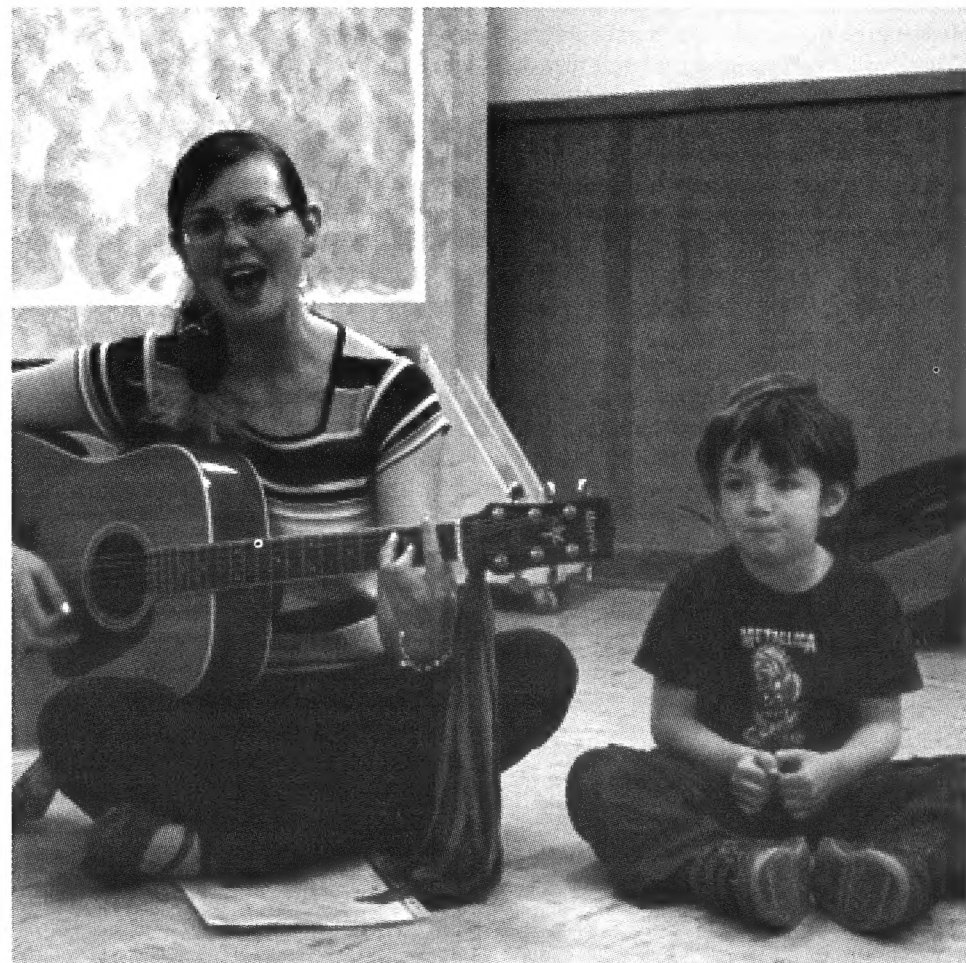
playing music from childhood, says her program combines music and dance fundamentals in a way that appeals to the way children learn.

Her work with The Time Flies brings Bissett and her musical cohorts to festivals across Alberta, equipped with musical instruments, zany props and colourful costumes. Her favourite? A housefly costume with a bright blue feather hat.

The group formed in 1998, when Bissett and fellow musicians Karyn Stirling and Connie Collingwood responded to a newspaper ad requesting children's songs for a TV program. The trio teamed up and started writing music. They noticed two curious phenomena: writing songs was loads of fun, and the time was flying by.

Bissett performs with the Artists on Rails program on Aug. 9 (from Edmonton to Jasper), Aug. 11 (Jasper to Edmonton) and Aug. 9-10 at the Sawridge Inn and Conference Centre in Jasper. For more information, check out www.musecruise.com/artists_on_rails_2007.htm.

For more information on other performances by The Time Flies visit www.thetimeflies.net/ ■



Dawn Bissett raises the roof with a crew of preschoolers.

Artist on a train

Talented staffer brings her painting prowess to Jasper

By Caitlin Crawshaw

Rose Litzenberger has been creating art as long as she can remember – sketching pictures and painting murals on the walls of her family's home.

"My mom says that she remembers me laying in front of the old black-and-white television when I was four or five and drawing things from various kids' TV shows," she said. "My dad built a room for me in the basement where I could go to paint or draw, generally so that I wouldn't make a mess upstairs."

In that basement room, Litzenberger's imagination was unleashed. One wall became a mural inspired by an illustrated version of Black Beauty – the mural stands today in the house where her parents still live.

These days, art continues to punctuate her life. Her husband's office dons a mural of an animated Tarzan from the Disney cartoon, for instance.

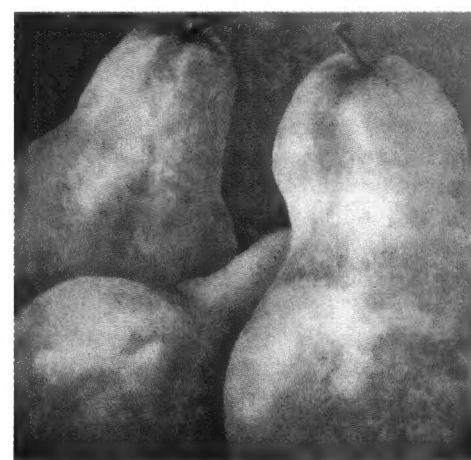
And three days a week the University of Alberta staffer can be found in her home studio where she paints for hours on end.

Litzenberger's specialty is vibrant still-lives that pop off the canvas. "It's not a particular style, I guess, but wherever the mood takes me," said Litzenberger, a web and graphic designer with Facilities and Operations Management.

"I like to layer a lot of different colours, so I may end up with green pears with blue splotches on it. I tend to go with more of a realistic approach than abstract, but I still like doing abstracts sometimes."

Litzenberger is also an avid photographer, specializing in nature photography and portraiture, and graduated from the U of A Faculty of Extension's fine arts certificate program several years ago.

Since then, she's been showcasing her art at venues throughout the city



Green Pears by Rose Litzenberger. Acrylic on canvas

and sells her works from her home. Her latest achievement is an invitation to the VIA Rail Artists on Rails program, where she'll showcase her painting skills on board a Jasper-bound train.

While some visual artists may be shy working in front of a crowd, Litzenberger doesn't bat an eye.

"I've been doing Art Walk for the last four years now, so it gets easier the more you talk to people. And I'll be talking about things I love anyway, which is always easier."

She dispels the romantic idea of the artist able to work only when inspiration hits. For Litzenberger, art is a mix of inspiration and discipline.

And these days discipline is particularly important, as the demand for her work increases.

"I'm trying to prepare for the VIA Rail event and then the Art Walk, and I'm not sure how many I'll have," she said.

Litzenberger will be riding the rails June 21-23, between Edmonton and Jasper, and will be at the Old Strathcona Art Walk July 13, 14, 15. For more information, visit: <http://members.shaw.ca/rosemarieL/> ■



Litzenberger at work in her home studio.

U of A eyes up the gold at Corporate Challenge

Strong competition means campus teams are fighting to protect the title

By Caitlin Crawshaw

Corporate Challenge 2007 is nearing the end – but victory for University of Alberta athletes is anything but guaranteed, says organizer Valerie Hunter.

"I think it's going to be really tight," she said. "We're really being challenged this year."

For the last three years, the U of A has earned gold in its division, but this year several other teams – including Edmonton Community Services – are threatening to steal the title. As of June 6, the U of A placed 1st, just 30 points ahead of Edmonton Public Schools. The games end June 9.

But while the U of A might not bring

home the gold this year, that's OK too, says Hunter. The Corporate Challenge has attracted many new faces and its popularity is growing. That's great news, given the real purpose of Corporate Challenge.

"It definitely helps build understanding in the campus community. And it even goes further, because we are ambassadors, and a lot of the teams we compete against, our alumni work there. So it's really important we represent the university in a very dignified manner," said Hunter, a rehabilitation and work-life consultant with Human Resources.

John Younk, captain of the mountain

bike team, snagged gold this year with his team – the sixth in eight years.

"It's been great. We've had a lot of fun doing it," he said, adding that it's been encouraging to see people stick with it.

Some teams, like his, continue with their sport after Corporate Challenge is over. Younk's team has a weekly ride night. "We'll probably keep on riding well into the fall."

But winning the gold isn't what the event is all about. For Younk, the camaraderie that evolves from the sporting events creates connections across campus.

"The people who participate on a team

aren't necessarily people you'd normally meet in the regular course of your work on campus," said Younk, manager of the ONEcard office. "There's one individual I met through this that I may not have met, and now when I go to work, if I need something done that's not part of my job, I know that she can do it. I pick up the phone, and I know that within a day the solution is there. That's a bridge being built."

"In terms of Corporate Challenge's contribution to the university, it goes beyond just bringing home a medal. I think we've built some great bridges, and we're building a strong team as a whole, because of this." ■

Grumpy old men?

Study show seniors suffer from stereotypes

By Bev Betkowski

Seniors are being stereotyped as grouchy, inflexible types who live in nursing homes, when the opposite is true, a University of Alberta report reveals.

The study quizzed 53 caregivers and 53 non-caregivers of Alzheimer's patients about aging in general and about Alzheimer's disease. Overall knowledge about Alzheimer's and aging was low. The caregivers knew more about Alzheimer's than the non-caregivers but surprisingly, did not know any more about aging.

The study results are published in the latest issue of *Educational Gerontology*.

The results were surprising and of some concern, said lead author Tiana Rust, a PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology.

"Anytime care givers are basing their care on stereotypes rather than the individual's needs, that can be a problem. When expectations are wrong, it could affect behaviour in negative ways," said Rust.

Rust cites instances in which retail clerks speak loudly to seniors before assessing whether they even have hearing problems; or people who expect less from a nursing home resident than he or she is capable of, can undermine the senior's sense of self-esteem.

One of the main misconceptions the study reveals is the number of seniors in long-term care facilities. While almost 40 per cent of those surveyed thought 25 per cent of people over 65 years of age lived in institutions, only five per cent actually are.

"People who require a stay in long-term care are thought to be either physically or cognitively incapable of living on their own, and if people are assuming that one-quarter of seniors over 65 require that kind of help, that's making the assumption



Tiana Rust, a PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology, has conducted a study showing that even seniors' care givers hold stereotypes of the elderly.

that a lot of older adults aren't capable of caring for themselves," said Rust.

As well, about 60 per cent of those surveyed thought that adaptability to change among people 65 or older was either rare or present among only half of them. In fact, most seniors are adaptable. And almost 40 per cent of care givers assume that most old people feel 'grouchy', when in fact,

most say they are seldom angry.

On the test quizzing about Alzheimer's knowledge, 25 per cent of care givers held the misconception that incontinence is always present in Alzheimer's patients. "This was surprising because fewer than 40 per cent of the residents at the care givers' facilities were incontinent," Rust noted.

The study shows that more education

is needed about aging, Rust said. "It's important that people learn more about what it is to be an older adult and also to know what Alzheimer's and dementia are about. It is important to recognize that older adults are a very heterogenous group, ranging from very vital and capable to those in the last stages of dementia. They fall all along the continuum." ■

\$4.7 million for elder-care research

Study will help put research into practice

By Bev Betkowski and Caitlin Crawshaw

Elderly people in long-term care facilities are often vulnerable and lack advocates for their health and well being.

"The people who really struggle, who often go to long-term care facilities, are people with dementia or some form of dementia," said Dr. Carole Estabrooks, a professor in the Faculty of Nursing. "Their parents have long gone, and their spouses may be ill or deceased, and their children may not live in the same province or city."

Fortunately, a new cross-Canada study will examine how new research can be implemented at care facilities to improve the health and well being of this vulnerable group - particularly in the areas of pain management, falls and fall injury prevention and behaviour management in

patients with dementia.

Estabrooks has been awarded a \$4.7-million grant from Canadian Institutes of Health Research to support the five-year, national research program called Translating Research in Elder Care.

"This is an important development on the part of CIHR - funding this type of research on aging," said Estabrooks. "With our aging population, it is essential that we develop ways to improve care delivery and outcomes for residents in long-term care."

Estabrooks holds the Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Translation and is director of the Knowledge Utilization Studies Program in the Faculty of Nursing. Knowledge translation is about using research in practice.

The project includes research partners, managers and leaders in long-term care in the three Prairie provinces.

"Conducting research at 30 facilities across five health regions in the three provinces will allow us to look at how context - that is, those things that make each setting unique - affects knowledge transfer," said Estabrooks.

The Alberta component will see research conducted in both Edmonton and Calgary health regions, and possibly the East Central Health Region. Sites will also be chosen in the Saskatoon, Regina and Winnipeg regions.

The program will test different approaches in the various settings, to see which methods for sharing research results work and why.

"For example, we might look at the most current research on falls prevention," said Estabrooks. "We will work with a facility to help them to adopt new concepts in falls prevention, and learn the best methods of implementing this research into practice."

By comparing across various settings, the researchers acknowledge that there is not a 'one-style-fits-all' approach, but that different organizations have different methods of accepting and using new research. The outcome is better care in long-term care facilities.

"This project provides a tremendous opportunity for the Prairie provinces, to not only work toward care improvements in nursing homes, but also to build research capacity in the area of aging," says Estabrooks. ■

New funds help aboriginal students feel at home

Belcourt-Brosseau House getting facelift, second house undergoing renovations

By Ileiren Byles

With vacancy rates on the decline, house-hunting is one of the first tests University of Alberta students have to pass - a test made harder for aboriginal students, says Angie Bigstone.

The third-year elementary education student remembers trying to find a home for herself and her two sisters during her first year of school.

"Nobody would rent to three, young aboriginal women," she said. "I was really fortunate that I had a good friend who gave me a good reference and came with me to meet the landlord, but still it wasn't in a great part of town."

In her second year of university, Bigstone secured a spot in the U of A's Belcourt-Brosseau House. The six-unit, two-storey house, just minutes away from her classes, is reserved for aboriginal students. Not only was it more convenient, but sharing with other aboriginal students offered some comfort.

"No matter what, if you've got roommates it can be tough. But, when you're with other students of the same background who are going through the same transitions and experiences - at least they have something in common," she said.

The Belcourt-Brosseau House will

be getting a facelift over the summer, thanks to \$550,000 in funding from the Government of Alberta. The money will also be used to renovate a second house for single aboriginal students, as well as several units in the Michener Park residence for those with families.

With Edmonton's apartment vacancy rate hovering around 1.5 per cent in the past six months, something as elemental as housing can make all the difference for a student working hard to succeed, said Irene Spelliscy, acting co-ordinator at the U of A's Aboriginal Student Services.

"For aboriginal students, maybe com-

ing from a smaller community, it gives them that sense of community back," she said. "The idea is that you're creating a little bit of the feeling of home, of familiarity and being close to campus makes such a huge difference."

What it comes down to is a commitment to helping students succeed, said Dr. Bill Connor, U of A vice-provost and dean of students.

"When someone's focused on making their lives better, sometimes it's the little things that can get them," he said. "Housing is a big piece of the puzzle when it comes to the challenges of making it all work." ■

Award winners shine in ever-changing work environments

Technicians Gail Rauw and Zoltan Kenwell are this year's recipients of the Nat Rutter Award

By Caitlin Crawshaw

"Not in my job description" is definitely not a phrase this year's Nat Rutter Award winners utter often – in fact, it's the constant change that drives them.

For Gail Rauw, a biochemistry technician in the lab of psychiatry professor Glen Baker, "the diversity" is her favourite part of the job. "It's always changing; it's always in flux," she said.

"You're always learning something new, so the job never gets stagnant because you're always on the edge of some technology or something new that someone wants to look at or analyze."

Rauw's work involves developing tests and conducting analyses of biological samples for research projects related to neurochemistry, using sophisticated instrumentation. She also teaches undergraduate and graduate students how to use the instruments. Rauw is well-versed in complex procedures like chromatography and mass spectrometry, among many others.

Rauw and Zoltan Kenwell, in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, are this year's recipients of the Nat Rutter Outstanding Technician Award, an annual award given to outstanding technicians at the U of A, whose work supports scientific research on campus.

The award is given by the University of Alberta Chapter of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, and is named after the professor emeritus in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

This is Rauw's first award, and a welcome acknowledgment of her long-time contributions to the university – Rauw arrived on campus in 1988.

"I had a box of toys that worked, and a box of toys that I figured out how they worked. I had a hammer, a screwdriver and a pair of pliers – and I tore everything apart as a kid, like, everything."

– Zoltan Kenwell

"I've never won an award before, so I'm really pleased," she said. "Support staff and technical staff are always in the background, doing more of the mundane things – all of the assays or doing the one-on-one with grad students, showing them how things are done – so it's really nice to be recognized."

For Kenwell, workdays are like his many projects: no two are alike.

"I've got six major projects on the go right now," he said, gesturing at the electronic devices scattered throughout his office. "If you start at the corner of the room and start going around it – this is a project, this is a repair, this is a project, this



Gail Rauw, who works in the Neurochemical Research Unit in the Department of Psychiatry, at work in the lab of professor Glen Baker.



Zoltan Kenwell has been fascinated with gadgets since childhood, when he would gleefully dismantle toys and household objects, before putting them back together again.

is another project, this is something I'm building, fix that, fix that, building that, new project..."

Kenwell not only does mechanical and electrical repairs, but also develops devices for researchers to use, so his work keeps him busy. One of his recent projects is an instrument that will measure the amount and direction of force exerted by a research subject's feet as they walk across a platform, and by their hands, in the event they grip an attached guardrail.

For this project, he'll also be creating glasses connected to a computer, which can be altered to affect a research subject's visual perception.

Additionally, he'll help develop software that will provide a live rendering of the research subject's movement.

Kenwell's work is also continuously changing – lately, his tasks have included doing photography for the faculty.

"Photography is something you can never really master – the lights are always changing and it's always challenging to get

the right shot."

It's demanding and fun work. "This pretty much for me is my dream job. I get a tremendous amount of support from everyone."

And it suits Kenwell to a tee. Since childhood, he's been fascinated with the inner workings of gadgets.

"I had a box of toys that worked, and a box of toys that I figured out how they worked. I had a hammer, a screwdriver and a pair of pliers – and I tore everything apart as a kid, like, everything."

Little surprise that his parents supported his habit. Both worked on campus, his mother worked as a nurse and father ran the electronics shop in the Department of Chemistry. So, Kenwell was familiar with campus well before starting work at the U of A in 1989.

The Nat Rutter Award is a welcome recognition for the successful technician.

"There are some brilliant people here, so to be highlighted, to be awarded that award based on feedback the get, is huge. It's a huge compliment." ■

Centre recognized for language preservation

Aboriginal languages at risk

By Dawn Ford

A U of A indigenous languages revitalization program is being recognized nationally for its excellence in aboriginal education.

The Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute (CILLDI), a partnership between the faculties of Arts, Education and Native Studies, has won a Canadian Council On Learning's Sharing the Flame award of excellence, one of six in aboriginal education awarded in Canada.

Heather Blair says the institute she co-founded "is being honoured for promoting three key aboriginal learning principles based on place, spirit and Aboriginal language."

Blair will be one of three of the institute members attending the awards ceremony and national conference in Ottawa June 12 and 13.

"This is a pivotal moment not only for our institute but for aboriginal people throughout Canada as CILLDI looks for-

ward to national attention and expansion," she added.

With a mandate to preserve endangered languages by developing research skills, language expertise and teaching resources among the speakers of the languages themselves, the institute is an intensive summer school that focuses on training aboriginal speakers and educators in aboriginal languages, linguistics, curriculum development, research and second language and immersion teaching methodologies.

This summer, the institute is offering its 8th summer program, bringing together native elders, community members, academic staff, undergraduate and graduate students, community-based language teachers, policy makers and children – the latter of whom are a key in the future of language preservation.

"The youngest speakers of any indig-

enous languages in most of western and northern Canada are in their 40s or 50s – it's one thing to preserve an active living language and another thing to have to retrieve it if there are no speakers left," said Blair.

Each year 15 children, the offspring of the students or elders who attend the courses, are accepted into its Cree Immersion Day Camp.

"We developed this immersion camp as a place for children to learn Cree but also as a place for our adult university students to observe immersion teaching in action and do some practice teaching," said Blair, who defines immersion as teaching in the language and through the language.

Activities through the summer institute include courses, community theatre, an elders' program, workshops and symposia, cultural practices such as drum songs, prayers, sharing circles and sweet grass ceremonies.

The institute has spearheaded the development of an Aboriginal Languages Instructor Certificate with universities and tribal colleges throughout Alberta.

"This certificate, which we hope will be implemented province wide in 2008, will provide increased credentialing and professional development opportunities for aboriginal languages instructors," said Blair.

The institute also has a new bursary program which includes tuition, travel, accommodations, meals and books for students from western and northern Canada.

Funded by Social Development Canada, the Canadian Council on Learning's Aboriginal Learning Knowledge Centre is a consortium of more than 80 organizations and individuals from across the country working together to improve aboriginal learning in Canada. ■

opinion

Elections won't solve Ukraine's constitutional crisis

By David Marples

The bewildering series of events in Ukraine over the past two months have led to a compromise between the two main factions: the office of the president led by Viktor Yushchenko and the Parliament led by Prime minister Viktor Yanukovich. A third figure, Speaker of the Parliament Oleksandr Moroz, also added his signature to the new agreement. However, most analysts concur that the real struggle is yet to come.

The latest stage of the impasse followed the president's dissolution of the Parliament on April 2, and his demand for prompt new parliamentary elections. On May 15, Yushchenko threatened to remove the Yanukovich cabinet unless a new agreement to stabilize the country was reached.

On May 24, Yushchenko dismissed a powerful enemy, Prosecutor-General Svyatoslav Piskun, a member of the Socialist Party elected on the Regions platform. Piskun appealed the decision at a district court, which rejected the president's decree. However, the Kyiv Court of Appeal in turn suspended the district court resolution.

The dismissal was a complex affair. Yushchenko maintained that Piskun had illegally combined his prosecutor's job with his position as a member of parliament. Thus he was combining political activities with an administrative high-level post. Speaker Moroz denied this claim, declaring that Piskun had in fact resigned earlier from his legislative duties. Thus, he stated, the dismissal was illegal.

Subsequently, the two sides began a show of strength, prompted in particular by the reaction of Interior Minister Vasyl Tsushko, who dispatched a reported 50 troops from the Berkut SWAT team to storm the building of the Prosecutor-General to prevent Piskun's removal. The Parliament then convoked an emergency session to confirm that Piskun would remain in office.

On May 25, Yushchenko took control over Interior Ministry troops, ordering them to march on Kyiv. However, their path was blocked by traffic police. The president maintained that ministry troops were needed to help control a potentially divisive soccer match between Dynamo Kyiv and the Shakhtar Donetsk team owned by business tycoon Renat Akhmetov, a member of the Regions Party. His opponents charged the president with attempting a coup d'état. Tsushko has allegedly suffered a heart attack – he claimed initially that he had been poisoned.

After the compromise agreement was

reached, new problems emerged when the reconvened Parliament did not take immediate steps for the organization of new elections, now scheduled for September 30. Yanukovich maintained that his prime obligations were to deal with the forthcoming harvest and to focus on pensions. The president then threatened to advance the elections to the end of July.

Where do these tumultuous events leave Ukraine today?

Overall, the president responded forcefully to the critical situation, albeit by bending or violating the constitution. Of late he has also fired several judges from the Constitutional Court.

However, the president has demonstrated the fragility of the constitution, and he and his opponents have contravened their jurisdictional limits. Both the president and Parliament continue to fight for control over foreign policy, and in many instances the existing laws cannot determine where power should lie.

Prime Minister Yanukovich has challenged the president at every opportunity, bussing in supporters to Kyiv from his native Donetsk. Moroz, the speaker, is in a no-win situation since new elections could see the eclipse of the Socialist Party. Theoretically new elections could result in an assembly not dissimilar to the present one, with the Regions holding a plurality of the votes. Its continuance in power might depend on whether the Yushchenko forces can come to a long-term working agreement with the Tymoshenko bloc. However, new elections will not resolve Ukraine's constitutional crisis.

A solution will likely require a new constitution that establishes Ukraine either as a country with a powerful executive or one in which Parliament holds sway and the president's role is mainly ceremonial. This struggle for power continues under the watchful eye of Vladimir Putin's Russia (which is on better terms with Yanukovich than the president) but has effectively been treated as an internal Ukrainian affair by the United States. Neither faction is likely to give way voluntarily, thus the potential for real conflict remains high.

It is surely incumbent not only on Russia, but also on the United States, Canada, and the European Union to offer mediation and assistance to the fledgling but unstable democracy they embraced so enthusiastically during the "Orange Revolution" of 2004-05. ■

Geneticists make ethics a priority

Editor, *Folio*

This letter is being written in response to the article entitled A dark chapter of history re-examined published in the May 11, 2007 issue of *Folio*. The article discussed a public conference on eugenics held on campus and cited some rather negative comments made by Dr. Dick Sobsey (chair of bioethics) concerning genetic counselling. Sobsey's comments suggested that genetic counselling in prenatal situations is often biased and that there is a question as to whether its purpose is to, "...give parents information to make decisions, or to encourage parents to make certain kinds of decisions."

Because the early history of medical genetics is intimately connected with the eugenics movement, we have always striven hard to distance ourselves from this. Our practice has remained in keeping with guiding principles found in the

Code of Ethics established by the National Society of Genetic Counselors. As such, we attempt to enable families to, "...make informed decisions, free of coercion, by providing or illuminating the necessary facts, and clarifying the alternatives and anticipated consequences." Visit www.nsgc.org for further details.

We realize that it was neither Sobsey's nor *Folio's* intent to specifically criticize the Edmonton Medical Genetics clinic. Our concern is that we have thus far been invited to provide a response, during which time the media and public have already begun to interpret such comments negatively. We therefore felt moved to send this letter to help provide a balanced forum in which to discuss the purpose and practice of genetic counselling.

Medical Genetics Clinic
University of Alberta
Capital Health

talks & events

Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in *Folio* and on *ExpressNews* at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: 12 noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

UNTIL SEP 4 2007

Graduate Student Support & Strategy Group (GS3G) Offers grad students a comfortable and supportive environment to discuss concerns/challenges/experiences related to being a grad student, develop effective problem-solving and coping strategies related to these areas, share and hear about other student experiences. Individuals are required to meet briefly with the facilitator prior to attending. If you wish to RSVP online and choose to leave your phone number and/or e-mail address, we will contact you to schedule an appointment. To RSVP online with only your name, please contact Student Counselling Services to book an appointment. 2:30 - 4 p.m. 2-600 Students' Union Building <http://www.UofAweb.ualberta.ca/counselling/gs3g.cfm>

UNTIL JUN 9, 2007

A Trace of Passage: Kyla Fischer A Trace of Passage is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking. The exhibition will be open to the public from May 16 to June 9 during regular gallery hours, Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 5pm, and Saturday, 2pm to 5pm. Room 1-1 Fine Arts Building Gallery <http://www.finearts.ualberta.ca>

UNTIL JUN 9, 2007

Reaching Out with Hope and Healing: The Art of Robert Pope, 1952 - 1992 Robert Pope was awarded Canada Council grants in 1989 and 1990 to support his illness and healing series, which was first exhibited to wide acclaim in 1991. Pope died two months after the first exhibition of Reaching Out with Hope & Healing. The opening reception for this exhibition will be held at the Fine Arts Building Gallery May 17, 6 - 10 p.m. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Saturday, 2 - 5 p.m. Room 1-1 Fine Arts Building Gallery

JUN 5 - 11, 2007

PIMS Industrial Problem Solving Workshop

The Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences announces its 11th Annual Industrial Problem Solving Workshop, "Connecting Industry to Solutions." The IPSW provides an opportunity for graduate students and faculty to tackle real-world problems using mathematical and statistical tools. We are currently inviting (1) industrial problem submissions and (2) graduate student applications. Please see the website for more information. Central Academic Building <http://www.pims.math.ca/ipsw>

JUN 11, 2007


Intramolecular Heck Reaction in Natural Products Total Synthesis The Heck Reaction uses palladium complexes to form new carbon-carbon bonds, and is a powerful tool in the construction of complex natural compounds from simple precursor molecules. Dr. Larry Overman, University of California, Irvine, describes recent results from his studies in this area. 11 a.m. - 12 noon E1-60 Chemistry Centre, Gunning/Lemieux http://www.chem.ualberta.ca/news_seminars/seminars/sandin.html

Spring Convocation Spring Convocation ceremony for the Faculties of Science (honors and specialization degrees only); Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 3 p.m. <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca>

Medical Genetics Recruit Candidate Presentation Dr. Ifran Saadi, Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Genetics, Harvard Medicine School, presents: "Genetic Interactions in the Palate and Tooth" 4 - 5 p.m. 2-07 Heritage Medical Research Centre <http://medicalgenetics.med.ualberta.ca>

JUN 12, 2007

Support Staff Pre-Retirement Series One (Emotional Effects of Retirement) This workshop provides you with tools to help prepare and plan for a successful, healthy transition from work to retirement. You must register for and attend all three workshops in your series. These sessions are



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Takács Quartet
Saturday, September 29, 2007

Richard Goode, piano
Saturday, October 20, 2007
Presented with the Department of Music,
University of Alberta







Andrew Manze, violin and Richard Egarr, piano
Saturday, November 10, 2007

The Theatre of Early Music
Wednesday, November 21, 2007
Artistic Director Daniel Taylor, counter-tenor
Guest soloist Emma Kirkby, soprano

Los Angeles Piano Quartet
Saturday, January 19, 2008

Ensemble Caprice
Saturday, February 23, 2008

Russell Braun, baritone
Friday, March 7, 2008
2008 Kilburn Memorial Concert, presented with the
Department of Music, University of Alberta

free for all U of A support staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca (if you wish to bring your spouse, please call 492-7124 to register them). 9 a.m. - 12 noon Stollery Business Centre 5-13 Business <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

Spring Convocation Spring Convocation ceremony for the Faculty of Arts (general degree program only) 10 a.m. <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca>

Recent Studies in Asymmetric Synthesis Establishing the correct stereochemical configuration in a molecule (asymmetric synthesis) is an important challenge in the chemical synthesis of biomedically important compounds. Dr. Larry Overman, University of California, Irvine, describes recent results from his studies in this area. 11 a.m. - 12 noon E1-60 Chemistry Centre, Gunning/Lemieux http://www.chem.ualberta.ca/news_seminars/seminars/sandin.html

Spring Convocation Spring Convocation ceremony for the Faculties of Arts (all other degree programs except general degrees); Science (general degree program only) 3 p.m. <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca>

Gender and Human Rights - Free Public Visiting Speaker Series Maja Daruwala, director of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative in New Delhi, India, will speak about gender and human rights in urban areas and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative. Satya Das, a director and the founder of the Human Rights City Project, will also present. RSVP: silke.dienemann@ualberta.ca. 7 - 9 p.m. 2-36 Extension Centre <http://www.csrc.ualberta.ca>

JUN 13-JUN 15, 2007

Access & Privacy Conference 2007 Speakers address topics including public and private sector information rights, health informatics, and related legislation. The conference prerogative is to provide a medium for industry experts to express, share, and exchange ideas and information. <http://www3.extension.ualberta.ca/accessandprivacy>

JUN 13, 2007

Alberta Injury Control Teleconference Dr. Brent Hagel, Alberta Children's Hospital, University of Calgary will present a seminar entitled Evaluation of Alberta Bicycle Helmet Legislation on Helmet use and Cycling Habits. Month-to-month rates for the teleconference are \$20. Port reservations no less than 48 hours prior to the teleconference. 9 - 10 a.m. 4070-A Research Transition Facility www.med.ualberta.ca/acicr

JUN 13 - 16, 2007

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Annual Conference The theme of the conference is "Evolving Scholarship". Further information about the conference and keynote speaker can be seen at: www.ualberta.ca/UTS/STLHE 9 a.m. - 12 noon Central Academic Building <http://www.ualberta.ca/UTS/STLHE>

JUN 13, 2007

Spring Convocation Spring Convocation ceremony for the Faculty of Business and Faculté Saint-Jean 10 a.m. <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca>

Lunch & Learn: Aggressiveness Healthy relationships require the ability to clearly communicate our needs, wants, thoughts and perceptions to the people we care about. This can be difficult to master. Learn the difference between aggression and assertiveness, and discover strategies for becoming assertive. These sessions are free for U of A staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca 12 noon - 1 p.m. Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall Athabasca Hall <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

Support Staff Pre-Retirement Series Two Learn about your Public Service Pension. Topics include benefits, when you can retire, pension plan options and sample pension calculations. Please note: Individual pension calculations will not be discussed; you may contact the Public Service Pension Plan for an appointment to discuss your personal situation. Learn about the federal government's retirement income security programs that are an important source of retirement income. You must register for and attend all three workshops in your series. These sessions are free for all U of A support staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca (if you wish to bring your spouse, call 492-7124 to register them). 1 - 5 p.m. Stollery Business Centre 5-13 Business <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

Whose Boom? Featuring: Diana Gibson

Gibson's talk will summarize a report to be released the same week on: Who is benefiting from the boom? Who is being left out? The shrinking of the middle class and much more. 7:30 p.m. 2-5 Business <http://www.ualberta.ca/parkland>

JUN 14, 2007

Pediatric Grand Rounds Drs. Catherine Field and Linda McCargar, Alberta Institute for Human Nutrition, will present a seminar entitled: "The Role of Early Nutrition on Immunity and a Cyber-Survey Look at Teenagers' Eating Habits." 8 a.m. 2F1.04 (Classroom D) University Hospital (Walter C

Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre) <http://www.pediatrics.ualberta.ca/roundsnews/roundsnews.htm>

Cell Biology Recruit Candidate Sarah C. Hughes, PhD research associate Department of Cell Biology University of Alberta Title: Merlin as a tumour suppressor: Linking epithelial integrity and proliferation 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>

Synthesis of Natural and Unnatural Products Department of Chemistry visiting speaker lecture presented by Jeffrey Winkler, Department of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. E3-25 Chemistry Centre, Gunning/Lemieux <http://www.ualberta.ca>

JUN 15, 2007

Breakfast Roundtable for Support Staff - June 2007 President Samarasekera invites support staff to join her for breakfast and an open discussion on topics of interest to you. 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Saskatchewan Room Faculty Club <http://www.president.ualberta.ca/eventsvp.cfm?cfocache&event=1013>

JUN 17 - JUN 20, 2007

XII World Congress on Clinical Nutrition The XIIth International Congress on Clinical Nutrition promises to enrich our knowledge in the role of clinical nutrition. To register or for more details contact Sharon Katzeff, at fax: (780) 492-4265 or e-mail: sharon.katzeff@ualberta.ca Location: Conference Services 116 Street - 87 Avenue University of Alberta Campus <http://www.icnsite.org>

JUN 17, 2007

Father's Day Birdhouses Bring your dad and help him build a birdhouse for your feathered friends. Regular admission applies. There is a cost of \$10 per birdhouse for materials. There is limited space available, register by calling 987-0362 1:30 - 3 p.m. <http://www.devonian.ualberta.ca>

JUN 18, 2007

Cell Biology Recruit Candidate Joel B. Dacks PhD research associate Corpus Christi College Cambridge and research fellow/group leader Department of Pathology University of Cambridge Title: Evolution of the eukaryotic membrane-traffic system: insights from protist genomics 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>

From Tragedy to Inspiration From the tragedy of the 1985 Air India Crash that claimed his family came inspiration to make a difference in the lives of the poor and needy in Southern India. Dr. Sankurathri will enlighten us on this inspiring journey. 7 p.m. Saskatchewan Room Faculty Club

JUN 19 - JUN 22, 2007

4th Annual Canadian WebCT E-Learning Conference The goal of this year's conference is to explore new technologies and share ideas about conventional and innovative uses of traditional tools in WebCT. <http://www.ualberta.ca/WEBCT/conference/2006/index.html>

JUN 19, 2007

Support Staff Pre-Retirement Series One (Financial Planning for Retirement) Learn how to create an effective financial retirement plan, prepare a retirement budget and about retirement tax consequences. Potential lifestyle expenses, health care costs and retirement tax consequences will also be discussed. You must register for and attend all three workshops in your series. These sessions are free for U of A support staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca (if you wish to bring your spouse, please call 492-7124 to register them). 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon Stollery Business Centre 5-13 Business <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

Lunch & Learn: Tips for Home-Buyers The Edmonton real estate market is hot, but is there any chance of a cool down? Get the latest information you need to make a wise home-buying decision. Topics include the qualification process, the steps involved in buying and, what to expect on move-in day. These sessions are free for U of A staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca 12 noon - 1 p.m. CAB 269 <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

JUN 20, 2007

Support Staff Pre-Retirement Series Two (Emotional Effects of Retirement) This workshop provides you with tools to help you prepare and plan for a successful, healthy transition from work to retirement. You must register for and attend all three workshops in your series. These sessions are free for all U of A support staff. Register online at www.learningshop.ualberta.ca (if you wish to bring your spouse, please call 492-7124 to register them). 9 a.m. - 12 noon Stollery Business Centre 5-13 Business <http://www.learningshop.ualberta.ca>

JUN 20 - 22, 2007

3rd Canada China Economic Co-operation

Conference The conference brings together government officials, private sector and academics from both countries for a stimulating discussion on a wide range of bilateral issues, including energy, investment, trade and labour 6 p.m. <http://www.china.ualberta.ca>

JUN 21, 2007

Pediatric Grand Rounds Dr. Annette Majnemer, Neurology & Neurosurgery, McGill University, will present a seminar entitled: "Developmental Outcomes and Quality of Life after Complex cardiac repair in the young infant with

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- Supervisory Development Citation

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congenital heart defects." 8 a.m. 2F1.04 (Classroom D) University Hospital (Walter C Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre) <http://www.pediatrics.ualberta.ca/roundsnews/roundsnews.htm>

Cell Biology Recruit Candidate Julian J. Lum, PhD Postdoctoral Fellow University of Pennsylvania Dept. of Cancer Biology and Medicine Title: Autophagy Regulates a Metabolic Form of Cell Survival 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>

Solstice Stroll Come and celebrate the Summer Solstice with us and support a really good cause. The Alberta Wilderness Association is having their first annual fundraising family event here at the Garden. There will be a walk through our natural areas here at the Devonian Botanical Gardens, to be followed by a BBQ in the Pine Pavilion. Call 987-0362 for more information. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. <http://www.devonian.ualberta.ca>

JUN 21- 22, 2007

Looking forward: Urban and Regional Research in Canada The event will bring together

researchers, research centres, and programs that focus on urban and regional issues from across Canada resulting in a country-wide perspective on emerging and future urban and regional research needs in Canada. Other outcomes of the event include: Providing networking opportunities for researchers, research centres and programs from across Canada. Visit www.crsc.ualberta.ca/news.aspx. Contact Silke Dienemann, phone: 780.492.9960 or fax 780.492.8265 or e-mail: crsc@ualberta.ca 6:30 p.m. Maple Leaf Room Lister Centre <http://crsc.ualberta.ca>

JUN 23, 2007

Saturday walk with a garden guide Meet at noon at the Shop-In-The-Garden and take a stroll through the beautiful Native People's Garden. Learn how the North American aboriginal peoples used plants, find out about the symbolism associated with the tipi, listen to stories and sample bannock bread. Regular garden admission applies. Call (780) 987-3062 to book your spot. 10 a.m. <http://www.devonian.ualberta.ca>

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Perspectives on Diversity

Perspective 3: Sandra Conn, Vice-President (External Relations)

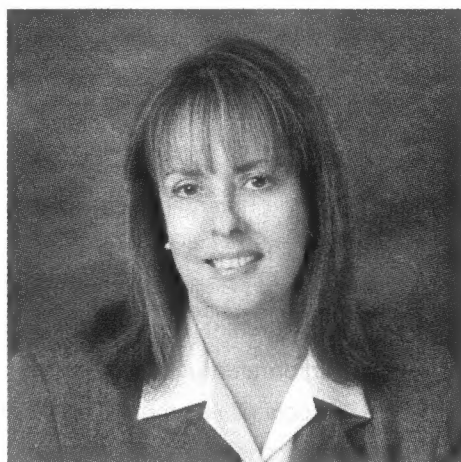
The University of Alberta is a highly diverse community of students and employees. It is a place where differing identities, values, and perspectives intersect. This intersection of diversity creates learning, working, and living environments that have the potential to be highly creative and fulfilling but also challenging and contentious. Exploring what is understood by the term diversity and, specifically, what the concept means to the University of Alberta is an important first step in considering how we should approach issues as they arise.

This article is the third in a series that highlights some of the many ways our community demonstrates its commitment to incorporating the concept of diversity into our day-to-day learning, working, and living environments. We have begun by asking some members of senior administration to talk about their perspective on diversity and our university.

In this third perspective, we hear from Sandra Conn, VP (External Relations).

Sandra Conn on Diversity

In order for an organization to build a reputation for excellence, it needs to attract attention to its strengths. By celebrating our accomplishments and the culture within the organization, we can be a magnetic force for like-minded individuals and organizations. This is a prime function of the External Relations portfolio. The president's



Sandra Conn

Dare to Discover cornerstones naturally fit into our vision and activities; by capturing the richness of strengths that our diversity brings to the U of A, we can build relationships, attract talented people, and build a foundation for a bright future.

Diversity is a term that often brings to mind such differences as ethnicity, gender and abilities. I tend to define diversity in a much broader sense, to also encompass research interests, philosophies, and customs. Within the U of A community there are diverse cultures within disciplines, and within the population. The values, styles and customs of students may differ from those of academic staff. The gifts, strengths and approaches of the medical research community are unique and different

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from those of the broader scientific community. We need to celebrate the diversity of the people within our organization and the contributions of each individual to our collective success. When we attribute value to our existing accomplishments and our diversity, we will attract more diversity.

One challenge in spreading the word about the strengths of our talented and diverse community is that one message will not be appropriate for all audiences. We therefore need to consider a diversity of channels of communication, and tailor our approaches to reach our target audience. We need to determine what is important to them, and how we can be appropriate and respectful in our communications. This includes cultural sensitivity, as well as accessibility issues such as whether an ad is visually appropriate, and easy to read and understand. We must consider how we can highlight our strengths without isolating any particular group.

The External Relations portfolio learns about the U of A's involvement in communities, connects alumni with current students and staff, and showcases the diversity of our talent. We attract people wanting a diversity of choices for study and research, and a broad range of experience from which to grow and through which they can contribute. Two-way communication is essential in this process, and it is very rewarding to receive feedback and share stories of collaborative success. By embracing our diversity, we bring the world to the U of A, and the U of A to the world. ■

- Sandra Conn

Please look to future issues of Folio to learn about some of the success stories of how our university embraces and encourages diversity and how we can successfully overcome the challenges we encounter. Previous Perspectives on Diversity articles are available on our website.



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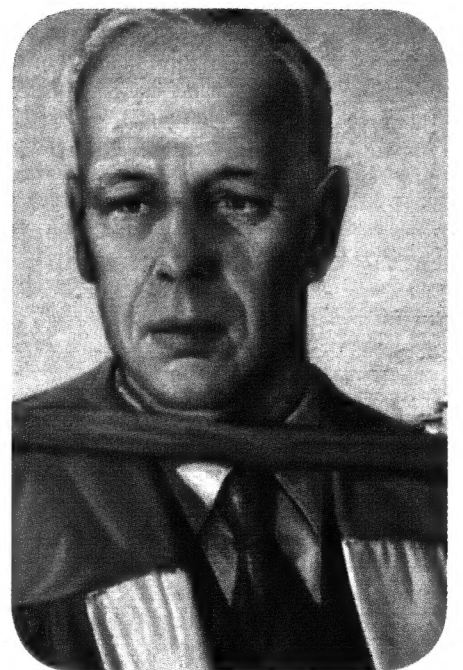
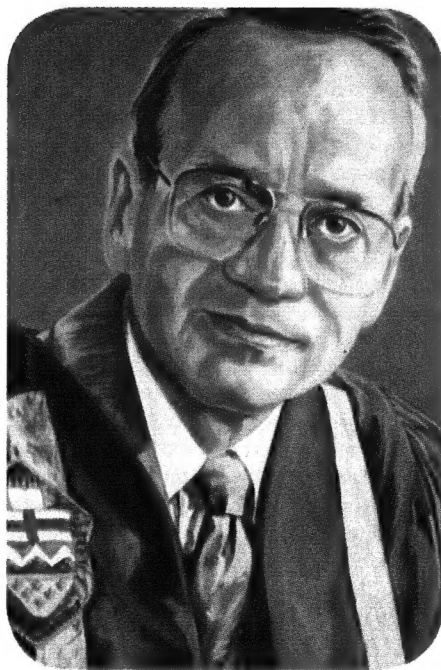
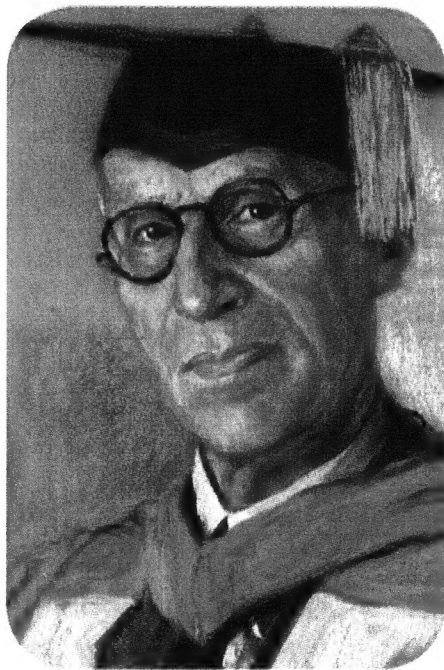
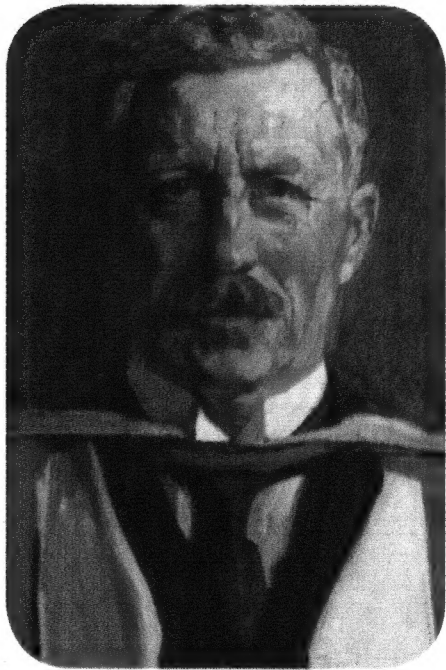
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Presidential portraits

From top left:

Henry Marshall Tory led the U of A from 1908-1928. This unofficial portrait was painted by C.S. Hatch.

William Alexander Robb Kerr was president from 1936-1941. His likeness was captured by Nicholas de Grandmaison in a pastel work on paper.

Myer Horowitz, painted in 1989 by Christian Nicholson. Horowitz was in office from 1979-1989.

Robert Newton served as president from 1942-1949. His portrait was painted by H.G. Glyder.

Robert Charles Wallace held the office of president from 1928-1936. His portrait was painted by Petley Jones.

The many faces of the University of Alberta

By Caitlin Crawshaw

The entranceway of University Hall has had a facelift of sorts.

A new exhibit, *Presidential Portraits – Pride in our History*, showcases portraits of past University of Alberta presidents, offering a glimpse into the lives of the former leaders and their eras. The exhibit was developed with the Office of the President to celebrate the U of A's centenary, and fills the first two levels of University Hall.

"When you walk in you'll see portraits of all 11 presidents," said Jim Corrigan, curator of the U of A Art Collection. "The first one you see is the portrait of Henry Marshall Tory, the first president."

Tory's portrait is an alternative portrait and not the original painted immediately after his term, by Frederick H. Varley, a member of the Group of Seven. Presently Tory's official portrait, and a portrait of

founding Chancellor Charles Allen Stuart also painted by Varley, are part of a travelling exhibition of the artist's portraits.

The 11 portraits span the university's history, and were completed after each president's tenure. Chancellors and other officials have traditionally had their portraits done as well, and the U of A Art Collection boasts more than 30 portraits.

In each instance, the president is provided with a list of artists and allowed to choose the person who will render their image.

A number of U of A alumni painted the works in the exhibit, including Esther Skaar Freeman (BFA '83) and Henry George Glyde, an honorary degree recipient who founded the U of A Department of Art and Design in 1946.

The exhibit runs throughout 2008. ■